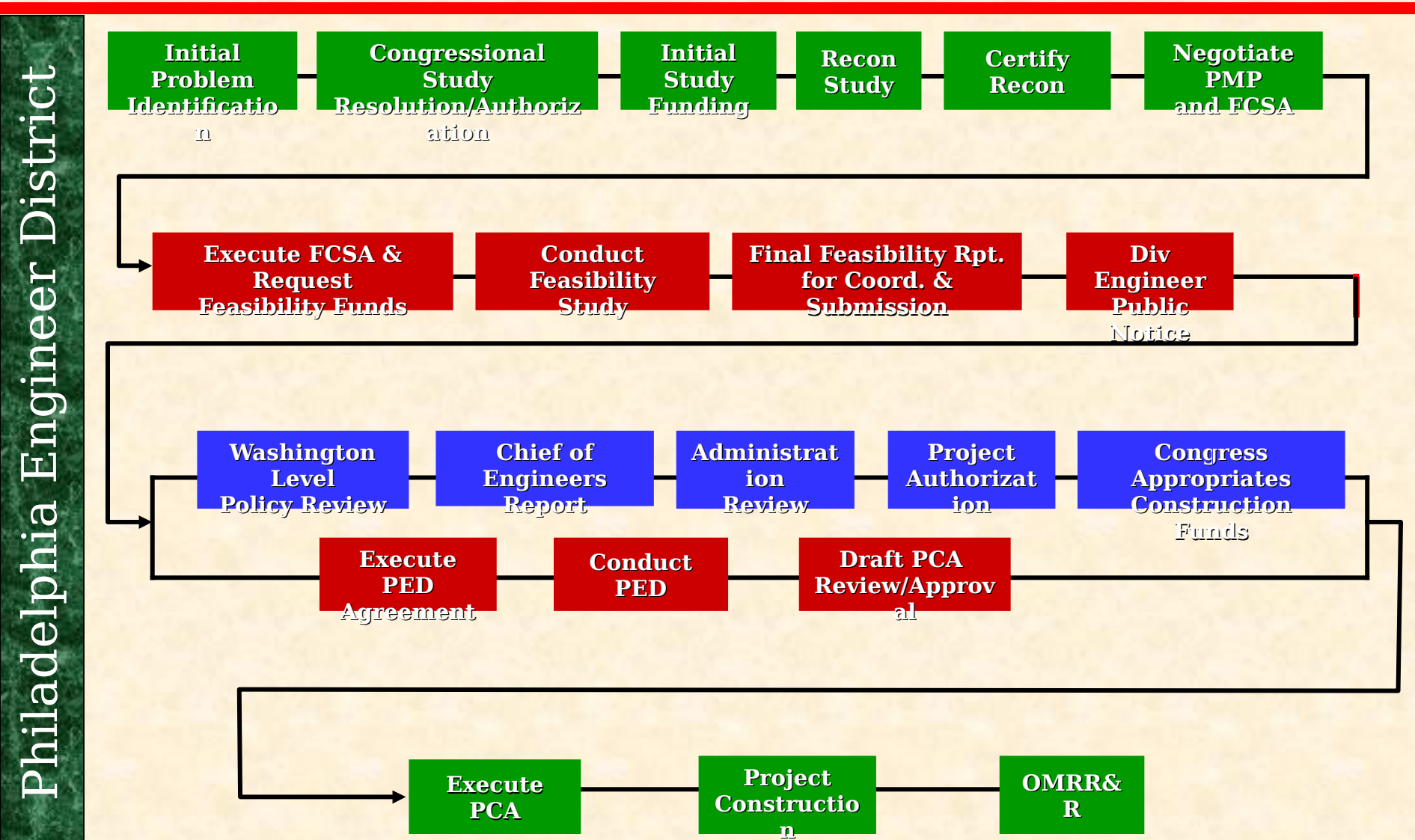
Philadelphia Engineer District

General Investigations Studies

Civil Works

Civil Works Project Delivery Process

Philadelphia Engineer District



General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

- Three Different Types of GI Studies (each with a somewhat different process)
  - Section 22, WRDA 1974
    Planning Assistance to States (planning only)
  - Section 216, Flood Control Act of 1970
    Review of Completed Projects
  - Specifically Authorized (“Named”) Studies

General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

- Section 22, Planning Assistance to States
  - Program to assist states (and local governments) to prepare comprehensive plans for development, utilization and conservation of water and land related resources
  - Program is annually funded by Congress
  - Maximum per state = $500,000
  - Cost sharing 50/50
  - In past years, enough program $ for one or two studies per year

General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

- Section 22, Planning Assistance to States
  - Typical studies (not projects):
    - Water Supply & Demand
    - Groundwater
    - Recreation Master Plans
    - Erosion and Sedimentation
    - Water Quality
    - Wetlands Evaluation
    - Floodplain Studies
  - Most flexibility to study what sponsor wants
  - Typically 1 or 2 years

General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

- Section 216, Review of Completed Projects
  - Program to review the operation of completed Federal projects and to recommend modifications “when found advisable due to significantly changed conditions”
  - Initial appraisal completed using O&M funds (up to $20,000)
  - Follow-on GI cost-shared 50/50 if warranted

General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

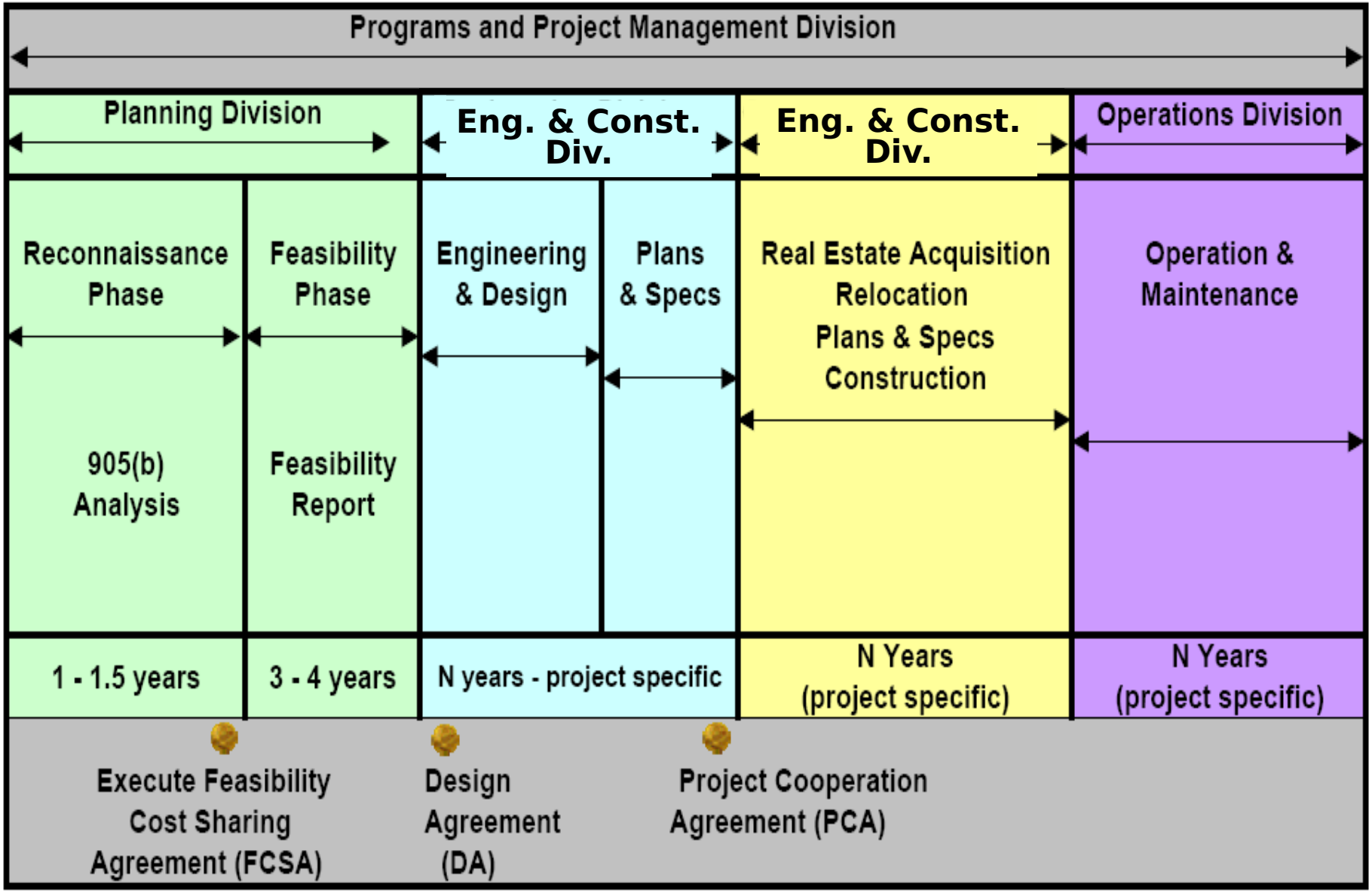
- Section 216, Review of Completed Projects
  - Used primarily where there is a minor change in operation
  - Can add purposes such as ecosystem restoration or recreation to previously constructed project
  - Not to be used when change in surrounding land use has changed optimum project size

General Investigations

Philadelphia Engineer District

- Specifically Authorized ("Named") Studies
  - Generally for larger, complex projects
    - Reconnaissance Phase 100% Federally funded
    - Feasibility Phase cost-shared 50/50
    - Feasibility followed by Preconstruction, Engineering and Design Phase (to be discussed in next presentation)
  - This is the most common type of GI Study

CIVIL WORK PROCESS & RESPONSIBILITIES - TYPICAL PROJECT



It Takes Two to Tango

Philadelphia Engineer District

- First to study, then to construct, you need both authority and funding
- Authority to conduct a feasibility study can originate with…
  - Water Resources Development Act
  - House or Senate Committee Resolution

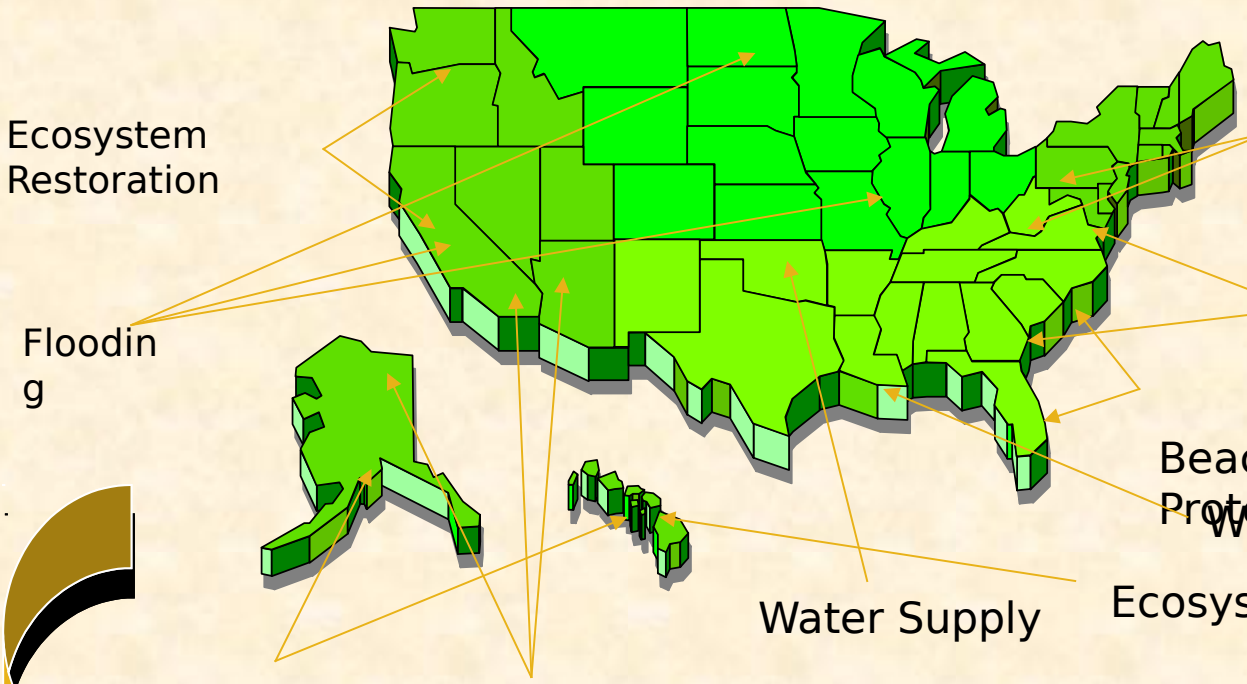
The Study Process

Philadelphia Engineer District

(1) Initial Problem Identification
(2) Congressional Study Resolution/Authorization
(3) Initial Study Funding
(4) Conduct Reconnaissance Study
(5) Negotiate Draft PMP & FCSA
(6) Certify Reconnaissance Phase
(7) Execute FCSA & Feasibility Funds
(8) Conduct Feasibility Study
(9) Complete Final Report for Coordination & Submission
(10) Division Engineer's Notice
(11-13) Washington HQ/Administration Review Processes
(14) Project Authorization

(1) Initial Problem Identification

Philadelphia Engineer District



Letter to Corps District Office

Sponsor Contacts Member of Congress

- **"High Priority" Missions:**
  - **Flood Damage Reduction**
  - **Commercial Navigation**

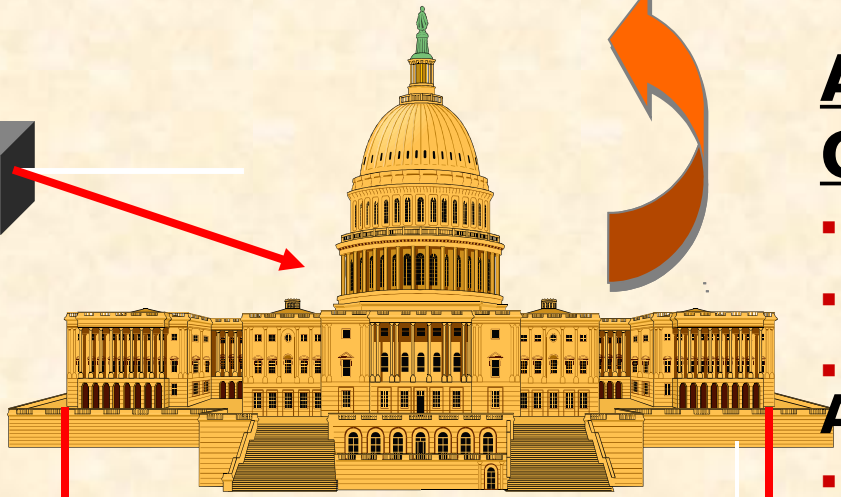
(2) Congressional Study Resolution/Authorization

Philadelphia Engineer District

WRDA Bill

Passage ~ 2-year Intervals

Member



Authority - Congress!

- WRDA Bill
- Study Resolution
- Standing Authorities
- *Appropriations Bill*

Environment & Public Works Committee

Senate Resolution

OR

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

House Resolution

Signed by President

Example Study Resolution

Philadelphia Engineer District

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

R E S O L U T I O N

Corpus Christi, Texas
Docket 2341

Resolved by the Committee on Public Works and Transportation of the United States House of Representatives, That the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, is requested to review the reports on the Port Aransas-Corpus Christi Ship Channel, Texas (45-Foot Project) published as House Document 99, 90th Congress, Second Session, and other pertinent reports to determine the feasibility of modifying the Corpus Christi Ship Channel, with particular emphasis on the La Quinta Channel and on Harbor Island, in the interest of commercial navigation and related purposes.

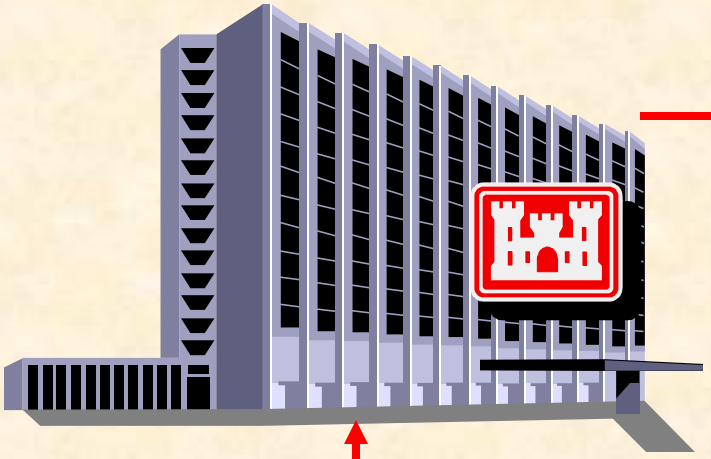
Adopted: August 1, 1990

ATTEST: Glenn M. Anderson
GLENN M. ANDERSON, Chairman

(Requested by Representative Solomon Ortiz)

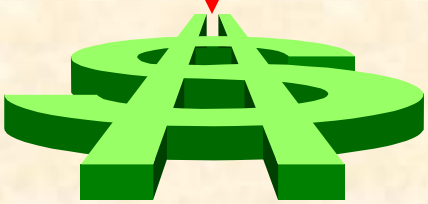
(3) Initial Study Funding

Philadelphia Engineer District



Budget Cycle

Congressional Adds



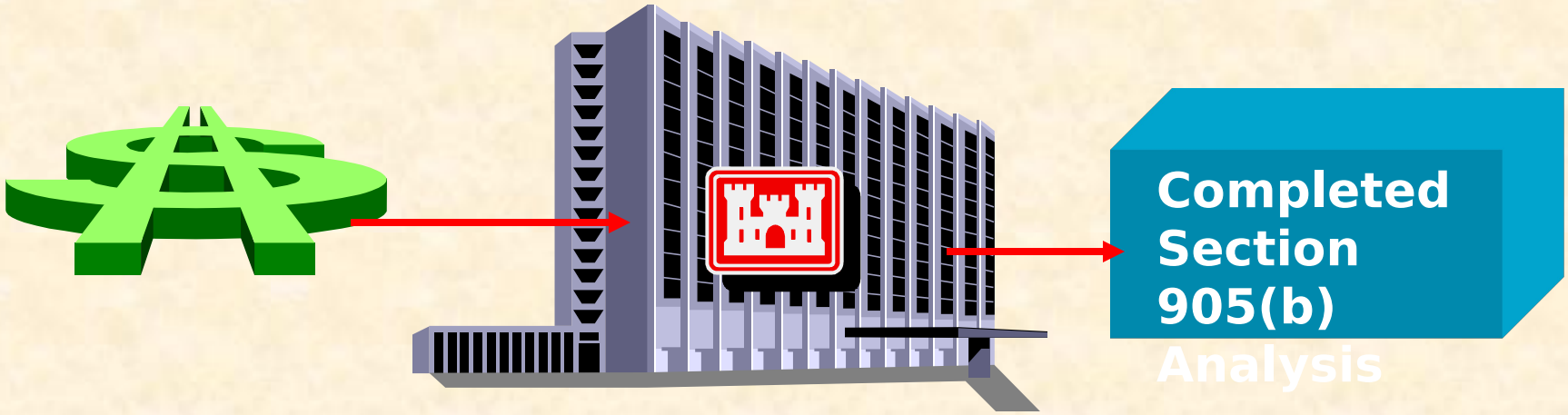
Budget Submittal (G I)

Budget EC

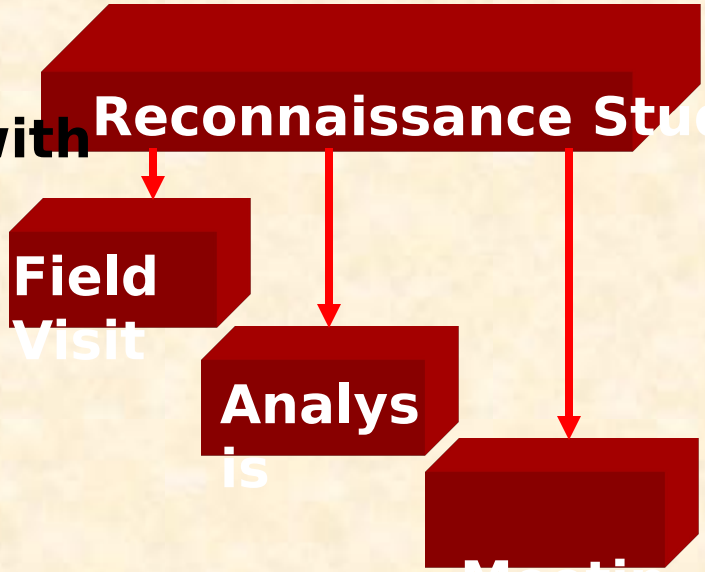
General Investigations Appropriat

(4) Conduct Reconnaissance Study

Philadelphia Engineer District



FULL FEDERAL FUNDING – $100,000 (GI) with exceptions



Expedited Process

- Use available info. & data
- Utilize experienced staff
- Report Completion - 6 mo

Reconnaissance Study

Philadelphia Engineer District

PURPOSES:

1. Define water resources problems and identify potential solutions
2. Decide whether there is a Federal interest in continuing into feasibility studies
3. Identify a local sponsor
4. Most of the effort is to prepare a Project Management Plan

Reconnaissance Study

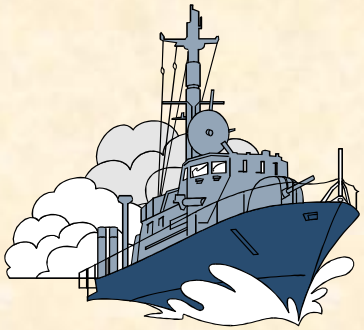
Philadelphia Engineer District

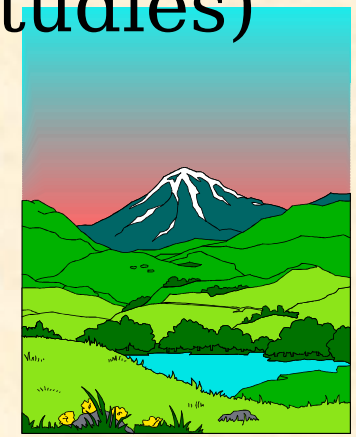
- Active Philadelphia District reconnaissance studies in 2005:
  - Mid-Delaware River Basin
  - Schuylkill River Estuary

Reconnaissance Study

Philadelphia Engineer District

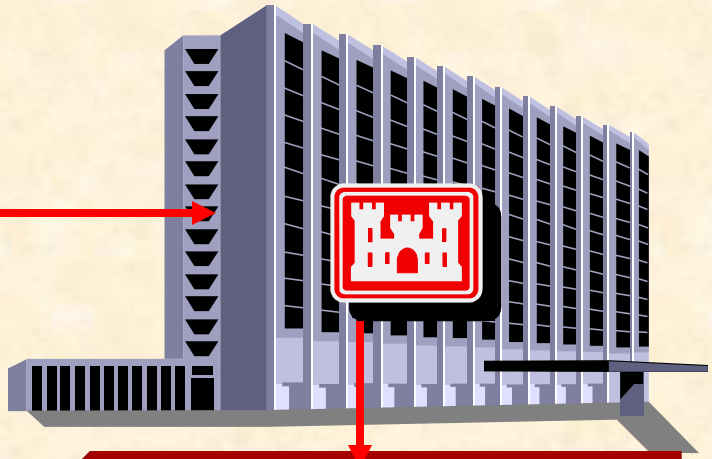
- Scope:
  - Can investigate single problem (navigation, flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration)
  - Or can investigate multiple problems (comprehensive watershed studies)





(5) Negotiate Draft PMP & FCSA

Philadelphia Engineer District



Completed Section 905(b) Analysis

Other Reconnaissance Phase Products

- **PMP**
- **FCSA**
- **LOI**

District will approve the PMP

District will approve the FCSA if there are no deviations from the model

PMP = Project Management Plan for the Feasibility Phase

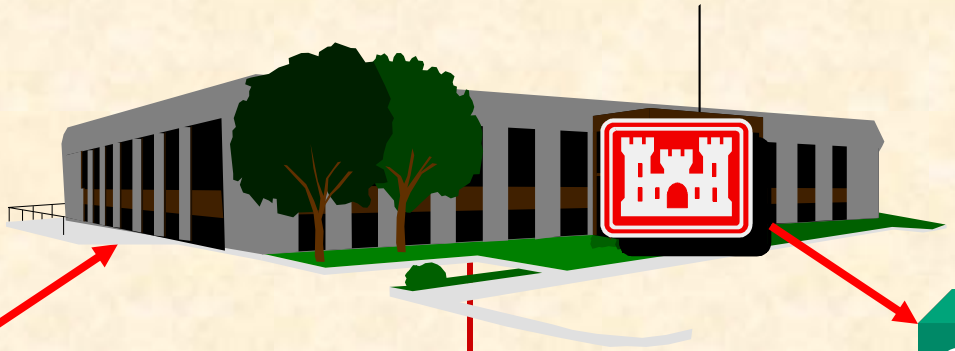
FCSA = Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement

LOI = Letter of Intent (Sponsor)

(6) Certify Reconnaissance Phase

Philadelphia Engineer District

Division approves FCSA



District Requests Approval

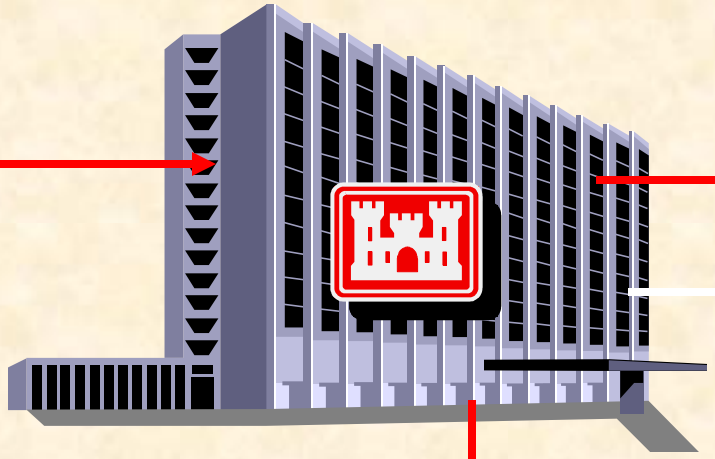
Certificatio n/ Approval Letter

New Process excludes Washington HQ involvement as long as the standard Feasibility Cost Sharing Model is used

(7) Execute FCSA & Feasibility Funds

Philadelphia Engineer District

Certificatio
n –



Initiate Feasibility Study

DISTRICT ENGINEER

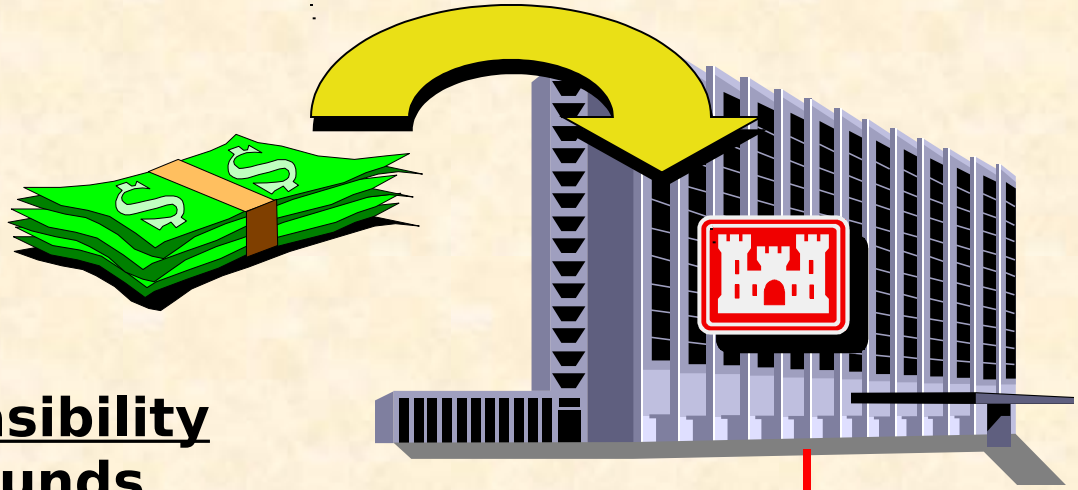
FCSA

The FCSA is a contract between the Sponsor & the Corps!

Sponsor Signs

(8) Conduct Feasibility Study

Philadelphia Engineer District

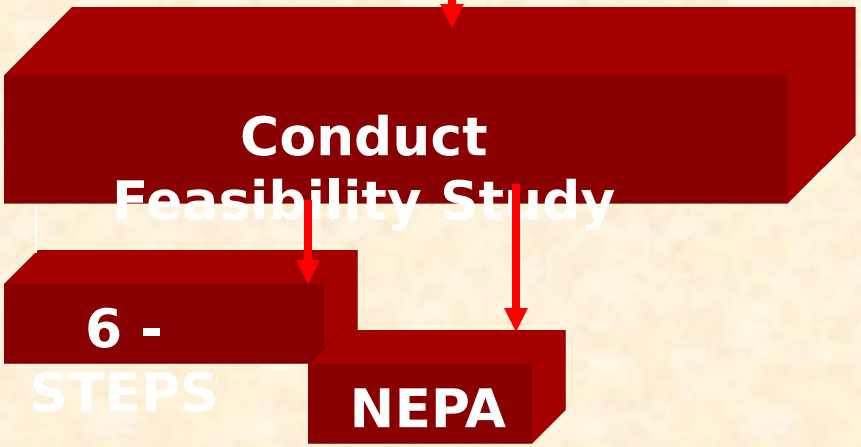


Feasibility Funds

50 % - Federal

50 % - Non-Federal

With WRDA 2000, all local share can



Preliminary Plan Selection from Feasibility Study

Feasibility Study

Philadelphia Engineer District

- PURPOSES:
  - Describe and evaluate alternative plans and fully describe the recommended plan
  - Develop a fully-funded baseline cost of the project
  - Feasibility Report is an Authorization Document and is submitted to Congress for project authorization
  - Feasibility Report serves as a Decision Document to convince the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of project viability

Feasibility Study

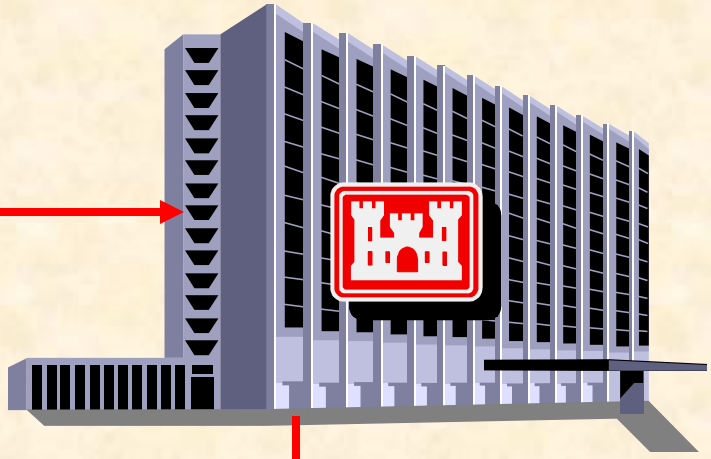
Philadelphia Engineer District

- Identify Sponsor:
  - Local sponsor must be identified to cost-share the project design and construction
  - Sponsor must provide a letter intent (LOI) stating their willingness to cost-share
  - Preliminary Financial Analysis

(9) Complete Final Report for Coordination & Submission

Philadelphia Engineer District

Preliminary Plan Selection from Feasibility Study



Final Report Completion

Division

Feasibility Study

FRC

45 Days

Draft Rep. Review

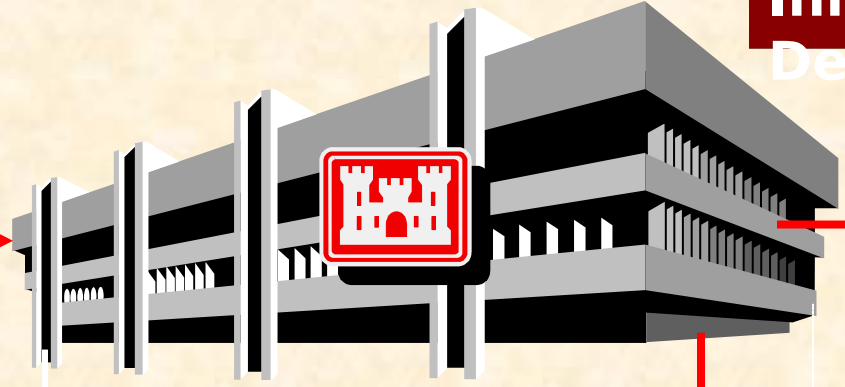
AFB - Alternative Formulation Briefing

FRC – Feasibility Review Conference

(10) Division Engineer's Notice

Philadelphia Engineer District

Final Feasibility Report / EIS



Initiate Design

Public Notice

HQUSACE

3 - 4 Pages

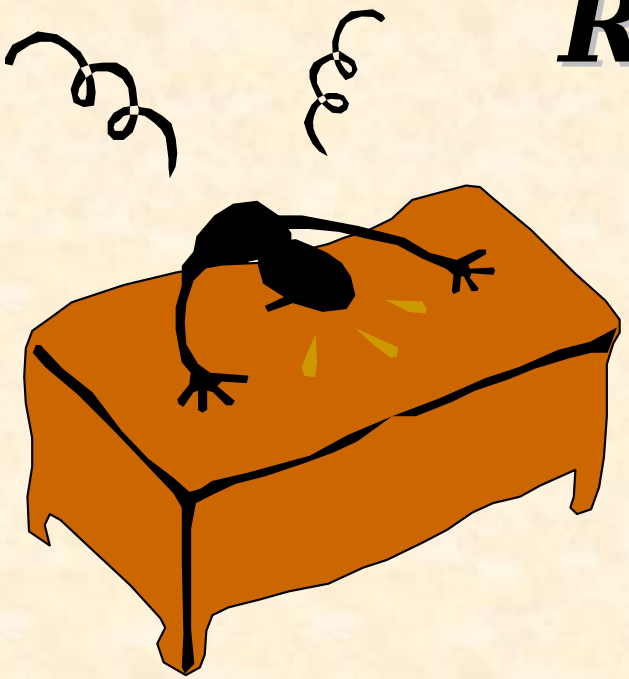
Public Notice

Endorsement

Draft Chief's Report

Philadelphia Engineer District

(11-13) Washington HQ / Administration Review Processes



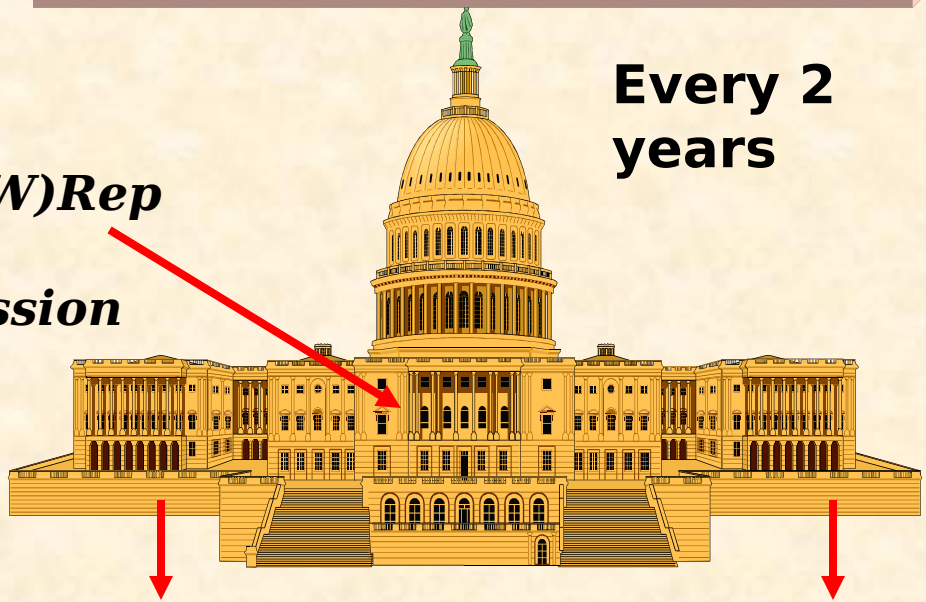
(14) Project Authorization

Philadelphia Engineer District

WRDA Bill

Every 2 years

ASA(CW)Report Submission



Environment & Public Works Committee
Senate Bill

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
House Bill

Example Project Authorization

Philadelphia Engineer District

TITLE IV—FLOOD CONTROL

SEC. 401. AUTHORIZATION OF PROJECTS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION.—The following works of improvement for the control of destructive floodwaters are adopted and authorized to be prosecuted by the Secretary substantially in accordance with the plans and subject to the conditions recommended in the respective reports designated in this subsection, except as otherwise provided in this subsection:

VILLAGE CREEK, ALABAMA

The project for flood control, Village Creek, Jefferson County, Alabama: Report of the Chief of Engineers, dated December 23, 1982, at a total cost of $31,600,000, with an estimated first Federal cost of $23,600,000 and an estimated first non-Federal cost of $8,000,000.